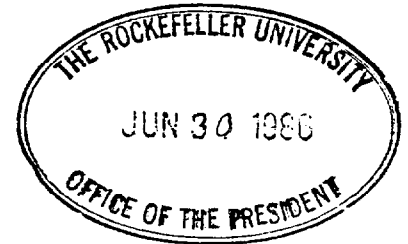


# BIOSYSTEMS RESEARCH INSTITUTE

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23 June 1986

President Joshua Lederberg  
Rockefeller University  
New York, N.Y. 10021



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Dear Josh:

The selection of William Graham as presidential science adviser and head of OSTP fills me with shock, sadness and outrage. It is nothing less than a slap in the face of the scientific community upon which the nation depends for a significant part of its survival and flowering as a dynamic society.

The problem started in earnest when President Nixon disbanded the PSAC and did away with scientific advice. Not that his predecessors did much better in giving science a meaningful role in the affairs of the nation.

It seems to me that the ultimate challenge rests with our education system, as I reflect it, in part, in the enclosed article which has just been published.

That the issue has reached this low point is to some extent our collective fault: We have to participate more fully and I dare say more responsibly in the affairs of state which affect the management and consequences of national and international endeavors.

You, as well as William Nierenberg (who is taking the matter quite philosophically, although not without a degree of obvious frustration) have been at the forefront of where U.S. science should influence events. I wish there were more of you and more than 24 hours in a day so that it would make a difference.

With kindest personal regards.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Elie".

Elie A. Shneour  
Director

EAS:hjk  
Encl.

x  
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